## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION

NED P. RULE,	)
Plaintiff,	)
v.	) No. 1:18-cv-00694-TWP-MJI
MAINSTREET CAPITAL PARTNERS LLC,	)
MAINSTREET INVESTMENT COMPANY LLC,	)
MAINSTREET DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LLC,	)
MAINSTREET HEALTH LLC,	)
MAINSTREET HEALTH MANAGEMENT LLC,	)
MAINSTREET ASSET MANAGEMENT LLC,	)
PAUL EZEKIEL TURNER,	)
SCOTT FANKHAUSER, and	)
JASEN COLDIRON,	)
	)
Defendants.	)

## **SECOND ENTRY ON JURISDICTION**

On March 13, 2018, the Court ordered the Plaintiff to file a supplemental jurisdictional statement, identifying the citizenship of each of the parties and the specific identity of the LLC Defendants' members and those members' citizenship (Filing No. 5).

On March 27, 2018, the Plaintiff filed his Supplemental Jurisdictional Statement (Filing No. 8) and an Amended Complaint (Filing No. 7). However, the filings neglected to identify the members of any of the LLC Defendants and their citizenship. The Court reiterates, "[f]or diversity jurisdiction purposes, the citizenship of an LLC is the citizenship of each of its members." *Thomas v. Guardsmark*, *LLC*, 487 F.3d 531, 534 (7th Cir. 2007). "Consequently, an LLC's jurisdictional statement must identify the citizenship of each of its members as of the date the complaint or notice of removal was filed, and, if those members have members, the citizenship of those members as well." *Id*.

Furthermore, the Plaintiff's filings allege the citizenship of the three individual defendants

based "upon information and belief." However, jurisdictional allegations must be made on

personal knowledge, not on information and belief, to invoke the subject matter jurisdiction of a

federal court. See America's Best Inns, Inc. v. Best Inns of Abilene, L.P., 980 F.2d 1072, 1074 (7th

Cir. 1992) (only a statement about jurisdiction "made on personal knowledge has any value," and

a statement made "to the best of my knowledge and belief" is insufficient" to invoke diversity

jurisdiction "because it says nothing about citizenship"); Page v. Wright, 116 F.2d 449, 451 (7th

Cir. 1940) (an allegation of a party's citizenship for diversity purposes that is "made only upon

information and belief" is unsupported).

Based upon the Plaintiff's Supplemental Jurisdictional Statement and Amended

Complaint, the Court still is unable to determine whether diversity jurisdiction exists. Therefore,

the Plaintiff is **ORDERED** to file another supplemental jurisdictional statement that establishes

the Court's jurisdiction over this case. The jurisdictional statement should specifically identify the

members of the LLC Defendants and those members' citizenship as well as the citizenship of the

individual parties. This Supplemental Jurisdictional Statement is due fourteen (14) days from the

date of this Entry. Failure to comply may result in dismissal if this Court lacks jurisdiction.

SO ORDERED.

Date:

4/23/2018

TANYA WALTON PRATT, JUDGE

United States District Court

Southern District of Indiana

2

## Distribution:

A. Richard Blaiklock LEWIS WAGNER, LLP rblaiklock@lewiswagner.com

Steven P. Lammers SMITHAMUNDSEN LLC slammers@salawus.com

Debra Ann Mastrian SMITHAMUNDSEN LLC dmastrian@salawus.com

Lloyd J. Weinstein THE WEINSTEIN GROUP PC ljw@theweinsteingroup.net